

10. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein R_{6a} is H or a protecting group for hydroxyl or thio.

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11. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_6 is C_1 - C_3 alkyl substituted with 1 to 3 OR_{6a} or SR_{6a} , which OR_{6a} or SR_{6a} groups are stable to hydrolysis in gastrointestinal fluid.

12. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_6 is
- $(CH_2)_{m1}CH((CH_2)_{m3}R_3)_2$, - $(CH_2)_{m1}C((CH_2)_{m3}R_3)_3$;
- $(CH_2)_{m1}CH((CH_2)_{m3}R_{5a}W_5)_2$; - $(CH_2)_{m1}CH((CH_2)_{m3}R_3)((CH_2)_{m3}R_{5a}W_5)$;
- $(CH_2)_{m1}C((CH_2)_{m3}R_3)_2(CH_2)_{m3}R_{5a}W_5$, $(CH_2)_{m1}C((CH_2)_{m3}R_{5a}W_5)_3$ or
- $(CH_2)_{m1}C((CH_2)_{m3}R_3)((CH_2)_{m3}R_{5a}W_5)_2$ and m_3 is an integer from 1 to 3.

13. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_6 is $-R_5$, $-W_5$ or $-R_{5a}W_5$.

14. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_6 is R_5 .

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18. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_6 is a branched chain R_5 group.

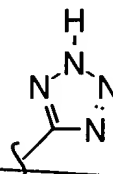
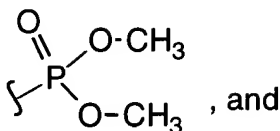
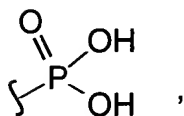
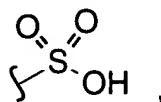
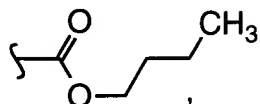
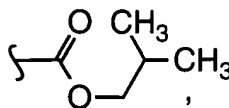
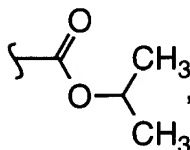
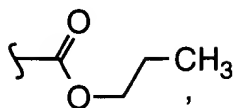
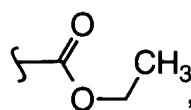
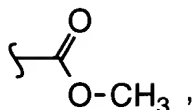
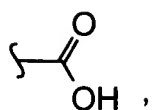
B3
20. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_6 is R_{5e} wherein R_{5e} is normal or secondary alkyl of 1 to 12 carbon atoms substituted with 1-3 OR_{1a} or SR_{1a} wherein R_{1a} is C_1 - C_4 alkyl.

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25. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_6 is R_4 having 1 to 7 carbon atoms.

26. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein said W_6 is not C_1 - C_3 alkyl substituted with OH or OH protected with an aralkyl, acyl, a silicon protecting group or a tetrahydropyran.

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30. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W_1 is $-CO_2R_1$.

31. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein E_1 is selected from the group consisting of: phenethyl ester of carboxyl,



34. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₃ is -C(O)-R₅.

35. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₆ is an alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms substituted with 0 to 3 F, Br, Cl, N₃, NO₂ or CN.

36. (amended) The composition of Claim 1 [or 2] wherein W₅ is selected from the group consisting of:

